

DAREDEVIL[®]

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

KINGPIN'S BACK,
AND THINGS ARE
HEATING UP
FOR DAREDEVIL!

43



PENNSYLVANIA.

TURN BACK THE CLOCK.

COME ALONG
FOR THE RIDE.

THAT WAS THREE
HOURS AGO.

THE ACCELERATOR
HASN'T COME UP ONCE.

VIC "KRUEL" KRUELLER BARRELED
OFF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON
BRIDGE DOING 87 MILES AN HOUR.

IT DIDN'T REALLY MATTER
WHERE HE WAS GOING.

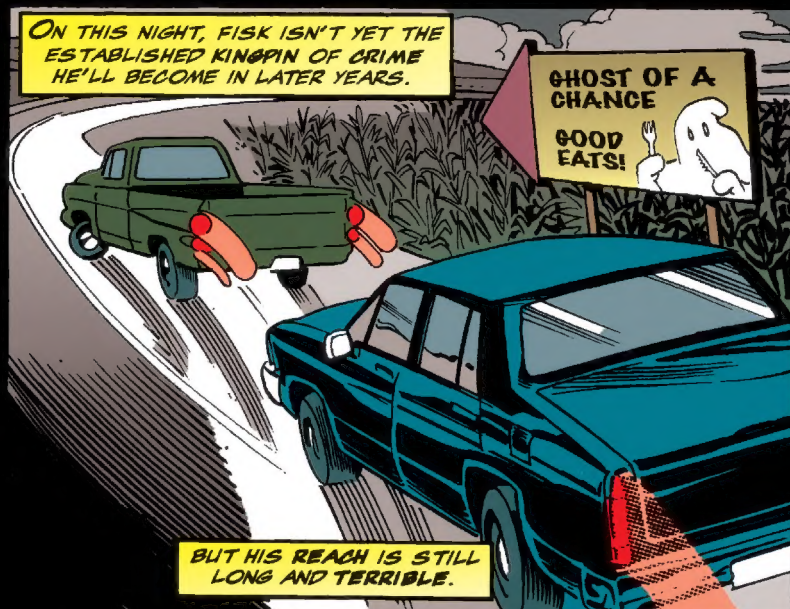
WHAT MATTERED
WAS SPEED.

BUT YOU CAN'T
OUTPACE THE DEVIL.

ESPECIALLY ONE AS
STEEPED IN VICE AS
WILSON FISK.

IT TAKES A SPECIAL
KIND OF MAN TO STEAL
FROM ME, KRUEL...AND
I'VE GOT SOMETHING
SPECIAL FOR YOU IN
RETURN!

ON THIS NIGHT, FISK ISN'T YET THE ESTABLISHED KINGPIN OF CRIME HE'LL BECOME IN LATER YEARS.

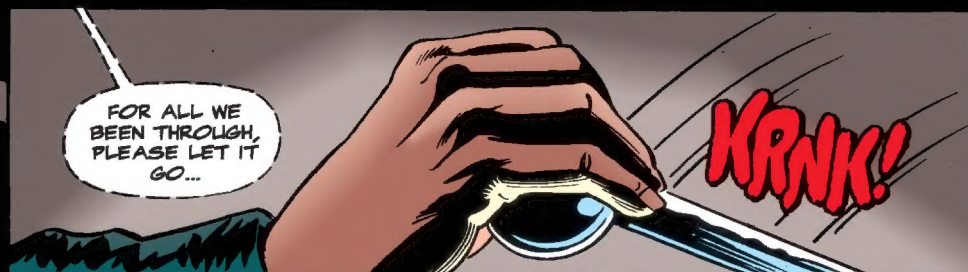


BUT HIS REACH IS STILL LONG AND TERRIBLE.

EAGER FOR REVENGE AGAINST A JUDAS.



LET IT GO, FAT MAN!



FOR ALL WE BEEN THROUGH, PLEASE LET IT GO...

KRNK!



FOR ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH, KRUEL!

SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL, INDEED...

THE GAS GAUGE CREEPS TOWARD EMPTY.

SOMETHING'S BURNING INSIDE THE TRUCK'S ENGINE.

BLOOD STREAMS DOWN TO BLIND VIC'S EYE.

GHOST OF A CHANCE!

AND ALTHOUGH HE'S KILLED AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN, KRUEL SUDDENLY KNOWS WHAT IT REALLY MEANS TO BE A DEAD MAN.

THE PLACE IS NEW YORK CITY'S ST. MARK'S PLACE.

THE TIME IS NOW.

DAILY BUGLE REPORTER BEN URICH AND HIS WIFE, DORIS.

SURE YOU DON'T WANT A BITE?

MY EGG CREAM'S FINE, DOR-- BESIDES, YOU KNOW I DON'T LIKE FALAFELS!

HOW CAN SOMEONE BORN AND BRED IN NEW YORK NOT LIKE FALAFELS?

I THOUGHT CITY MATERNITY WARDS FED THEM THAT INSTEAD OF BOTTLES!

BE BETTER FOR KIDS THAN SOME OF THE SLOP THAT GETS SHOVED ON THEM! WE DID A STORY ON BELLEVUE WHERE

IT COMES TO HIM, THEN, A SHADOWY FLASH OF MEMORY.

HARSH LIGHTS.

BURNING TIRES GRATING ACROSS GRAVEL.

THE WET SHRIEK OF GLASS SHATTERING AND SLICING.

A FALAFEL FLAVORED WITH A FINE SEASONING OF BLOOD.

SHADOWY--SAVAGE--MEMORY.

AND THEN THE MIND CHARGED WITH PRESERVING SANITY CHASES IT AWAY.

WHAT IS IT, HON?

GOD...I WISH I KNEW! JUST THINKING ABOUT FALAFELS, I GUESS--ughh!

LET'S GET YOU SOME HE-MAN REPORTER-TYPE EATS! WHERE'S THAT PLACE YOU LIKE THAT SERVES THE 3-DAY OLD COFFEE?

SHH...IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW...

STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

BETRAYAL

SHRIIIK!

ALL
RIGHT!?

OH NO, NO,
NO... I DON'T
THINK SO!

DORIS--
LOOK OUT!

THE YEARS HAVE
NOT BEEN KIND
TO VIC KRUELLER.

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KRUEL LIKES TO SHARE HIS EXPERIENCE.

SHRAK!

STRAAK!



BEEN LOOKIN' FOR YOU...BEEN LOOKIN' FOR ALL A' YOU!

M-MY EYES--W-WHAT'S HE DONE TO MY EYES--?



YOU WERE THERE-- YOU WERE PART OF IT!

AND WE'RE GONNA GO BACK TOGETHER...

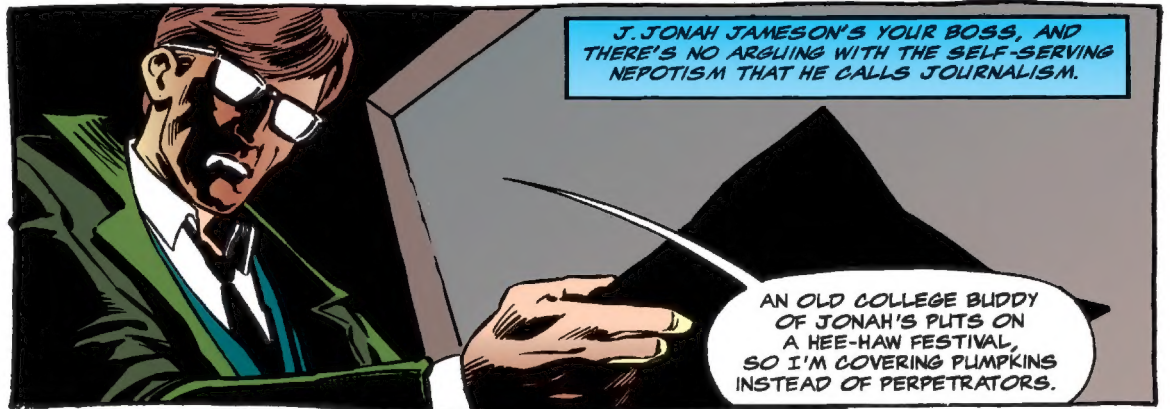
DOUBLE FISTFUL OF VIOLENCE, THREE PARTS AGONY.



A RECIPE FOR CALLING UP SOME DARK, PRIMAL SECTION OF THE BRAIN.

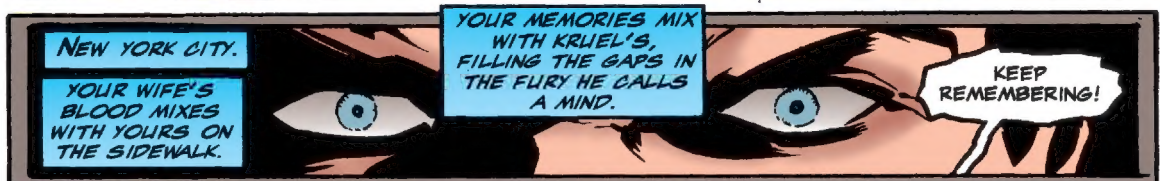
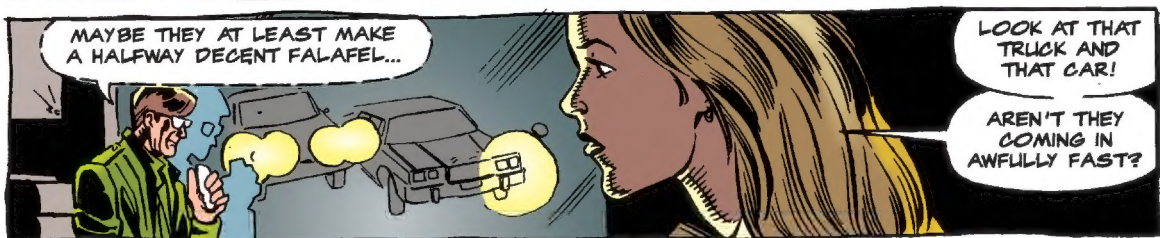
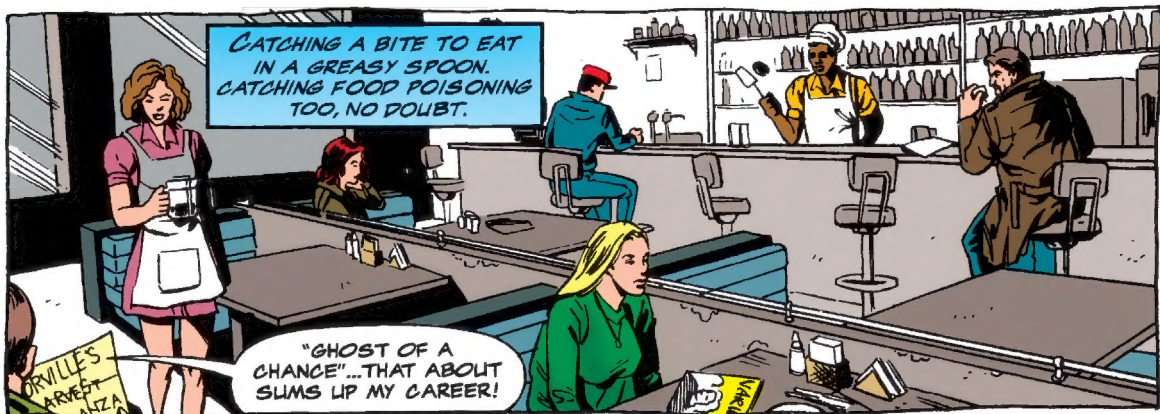
BRINGING WITH IT RECOLLECTIONS FROM A NIGHT IN AN EAST PENNSYLVANIA CORNER OF HELL.

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW GOOD A REPORTER YOU ARE, OR HOW MUCH YOU WANT THE CRIME BEAT.



J. JONAH JAMESON'S YOUR BOSS, AND THERE'S NO ARGUING WITH THE SELF-SERVING NEPOTISM THAT HE CALLS JOURNALISM.

AN OLD COLLEGE BUDDY OF JONAH'S PUTS ON A HEE-HAW FESTIVAL, SO I'M COVERING PUMPKINS INSTEAD OF PERPETRATORS.



A FALAFEL FLAVORED WITH
A SEASONING OF BLOOD.



L-LEAVE
MY
HUSBAND
ALONE!

N-NO,
HONEY,
D-DON'T--



DORIS!

FUNKLOON!

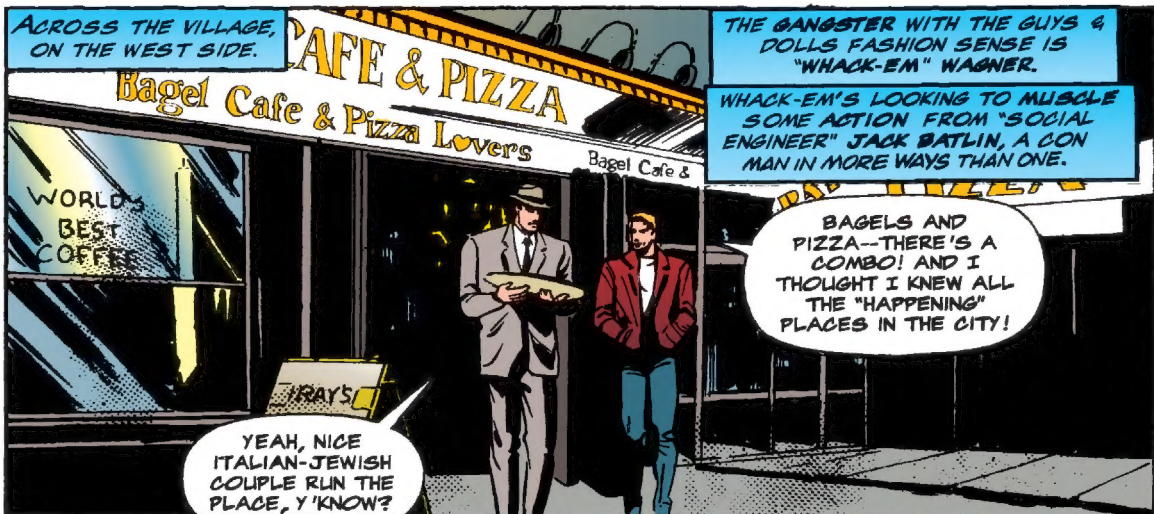


D-DORIS...



DON'T FEEL
LEFT OUT...I
GOT PLENTY FOR
EVERYBODY!

AND--AND
FOR THE FAT
MAN--SOMETHING
SPECIAL...



ACROSS THE VILLAGE,
ON THE WEST SIDE.

CAFE & PIZZA

Bagel Cafe & Pizza Lovers

THE GANGSTER WITH THE GUYS &
DOLLS FASHION SENSE IS
"WHACK-EM" WAGNER.

WHACK-EM'S LOOKING TO MUSCLE
SOME ACTION FROM "SOCIAL
ENGINEER" JACK BATLIN, A CON
MAN IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.

BAGELS AND
PIZZA--THERE'S A
COMBO! AND I
THOUGHT I KNEW ALL
THE "HAPPENING"
PLACES IN THE CITY!

YEAH, NICE
ITALIAN-JEWISH
COUPLE RUN THE
PLACE, Y'KNOW?

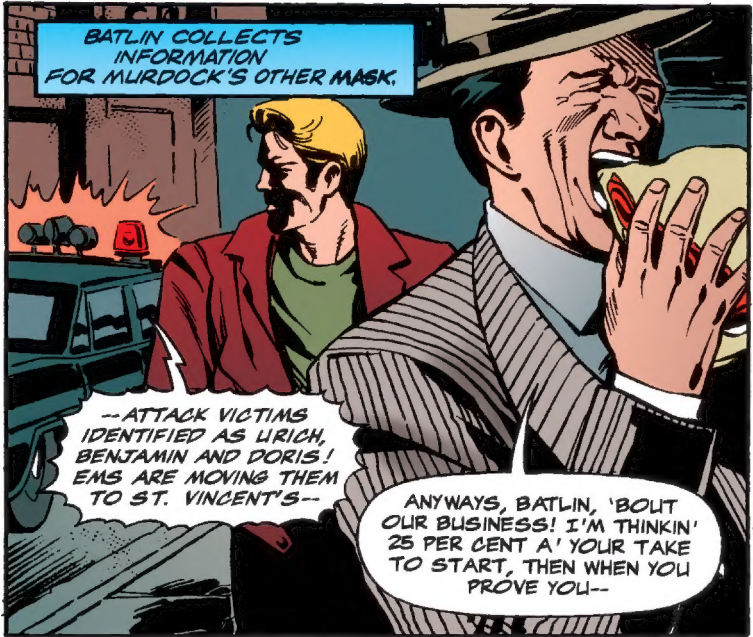


WORKS,
MOSTLY... 'CEPT WHEN
THEY MIX UP THEM
MATZOH BALLS WITH
THE MEATBALLS!
FORGET ABOUT IT!



THE REALITY BEHIND BATLIN
IS THAT HE'S MATTHEW
MICHAEL MURDOCK. AND
HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD.

THEY GOT A PERFECT
CRUST, THOUGH, I'M TELLIN'
YA! THICK, BUT NOT TOO
HARD--JUST RIGHT FOR FOLDIN'!



BATLIN COLLECTS
INFORMATION
FOR MURDOCK'S OTHER MASK.

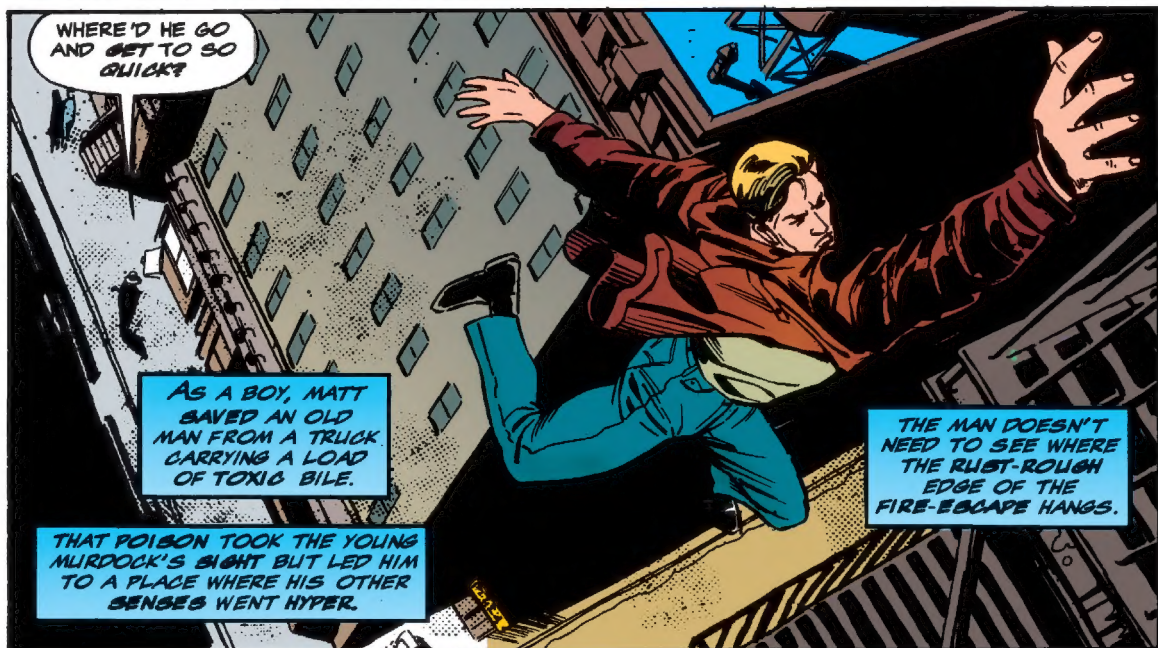
--ATTACK VICTIMS
IDENTIFIED AS ULRICH,
BENJAMIN AND DORIS!
EMS ARE MOVING THEM
TO ST. VINCENT'S--

ANYWAYS, BATLIN, 'BOLT
OUR BUSINESS! I'M THINKIN'
25 PER CENT A' YOUR TAKE
TO START, THEN WHEN YOU
PROVE YOU--



THE DAREDEVIL VIGILANTE WHO
PROVIDES THE CITY'S MEAN
STREETS WITH A DEGREE OF
HUMANITY AND JUSTICE.

BEN...?



HE CAN TASTE-TOUCH-SMELL-HEAR THE
CITY AROUND HIM LIKE NO ONE ELSE
ON THE PLANET CAN EVEN DREAM.

A full-page illustration of Daredevil in his red and green suit, standing on a rooftop. He is holding a long, thin metal rod horizontally with both hands, arms raised. The background shows a cityscape with buildings and a large, dark, circular object in the sky.

SO IN TUNE.


SO MANY LEVELS.

ALL AT ONCE.

IT'S A WILD, RECKLESS
FEELING OF POWER.

AND IT DRIVES MATT
MURDOCK TO PROTECT
THE CITY THAT'S GIVEN
HIM THIS GIFT.

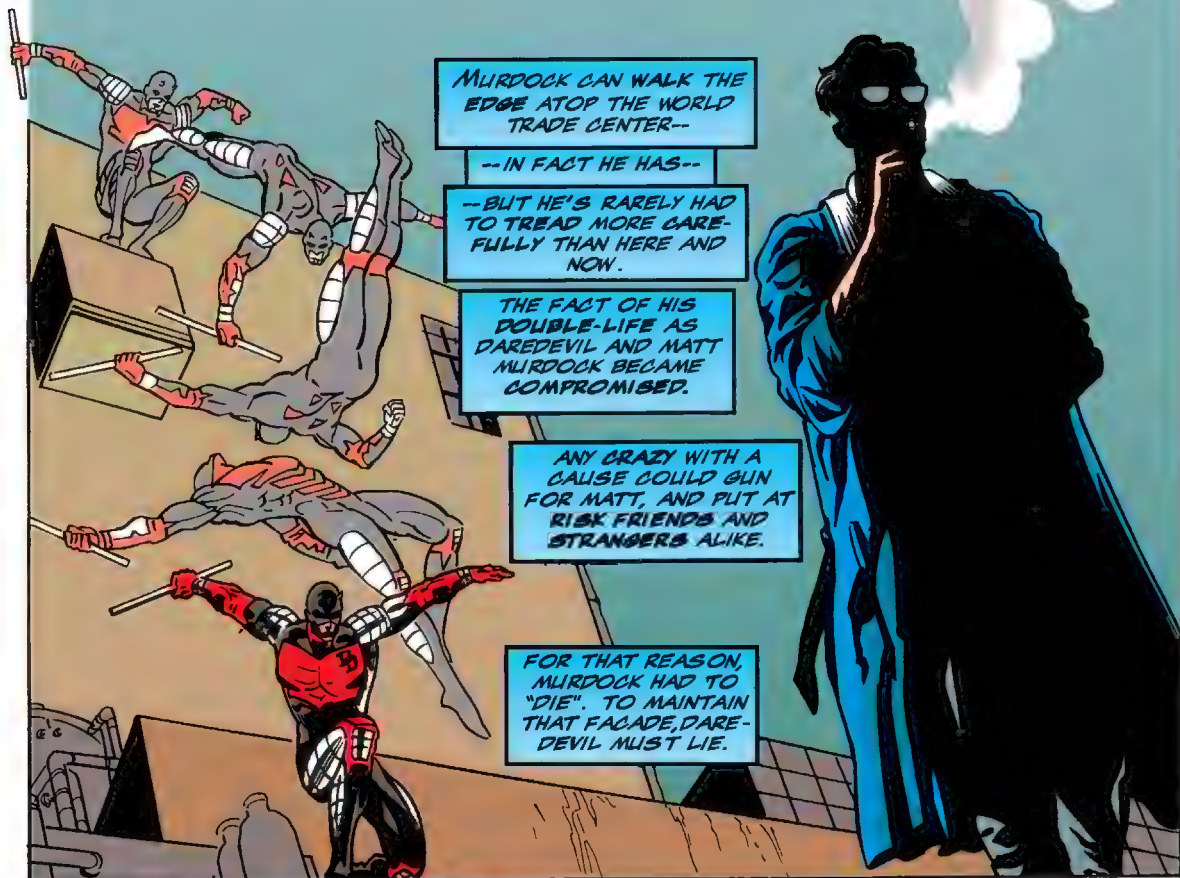
THE CITY...AND
ITS PEOPLE.

A small inset panel showing a line drawing of a man (Ben Urich) standing in a doorway, framed by three concentric red circles.

"RADAR"—A CRUDE,
INTERNALIZED PERCEPTION
OF FORM--MAPS OUT BEN
URICH'S FIGURE.

A small inset panel showing a line drawing of Daredevil's face, looking upwards, framed by a red circle.

FROM 320 FEET UP DARE-
DEVIL FEELS THE GLOW
OF THE REPORTER'S
CIGARETTE LIKE THE OPEN
DOOR OF A FURNACE.



MURDOCK CAN WALK THE
EDGE ATOP THE WORLD
TRADE CENTER--

--IN FACT HE HAS--

--BUT HE'S RARELY HAD
TO TREAD MORE CARE-
FULLY THAN HERE AND
NOW.

THE FACT OF HIS
DOUBLE-LIFE AS
DAREDEVIL AND MATT
MURDOCK BECAME
COMPROMISED.

ANY CRAZY WITH A
CAUSE COULD GUN
FOR MATT, AND PUT AT
RISK FRIENDS AND
STRANGERS ALIKE.

FOR THAT REASON,
MURDOCK HAD TO
"DIE". TO MAINTAIN
THAT FACADE, DARE-
DEVIL MUST LIE.

AND TREAT A
FRIEND LIKE A
STRANGER.

THOSE THINGS
WILL KILL YOU, MR.
URICH.



I'VE
SURVIVED
WORSE.

YOU'RE...
WHAT IS IT
YOU CALL
YOURSELF?



DAREDEVIL.

I'M
DAREDEVIL.



NOT IN
MY BOOK,
PAL.



TWIIK

BUT IF IT
MAKES YOU
HAPPY...



...HEY,
KNOCK
YOURSELF
OUT!

TWIRSSH



I HEARD
ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED TO
YOU AND YOUR
WIFE, MR. URICH.

I WANT
TO
HELP...



YOU GOING TO PUT THE PIECES
OF HER SKULL BACK TO-
GETHER? YOU GONNA REACH IN
THERE AND PULL HER OUT OF
HER COMA?

THE OLD
HORNHEAD--THE
REAL ONE--AT
LEAST HE'D HAVE
NAILED THIS
PSYCHO.



BUT JUST WHAT
GOOD ARE YOU,
"DAREDEVIL"?
UNLESS...

...MATT...



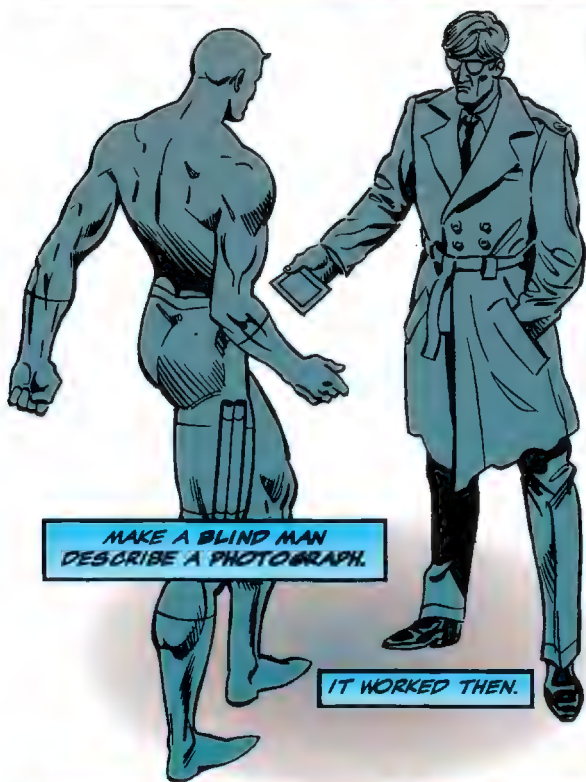
HEY, WHY NOT?
IT'S A CRAZY IDEA...
BUT YOU PEOPLE
WEAR MASKS AS
A FASHION
STATEMENT!

WHO'S TO
SAY WHAT'S
CRAZY?



TELL ME
ABOUT THIS
PICTURE.

BEN URICH HAS
PLAYED THIS BLUFF
BEFORE, TO PROVE
MATT MURDOCK AND
DAREDEVIL WERE ONE
AND THE SAME.



MAKE A BLIND MAN
DESCRIBE A PHOTOGRAPH.

IT WORKED THEN.



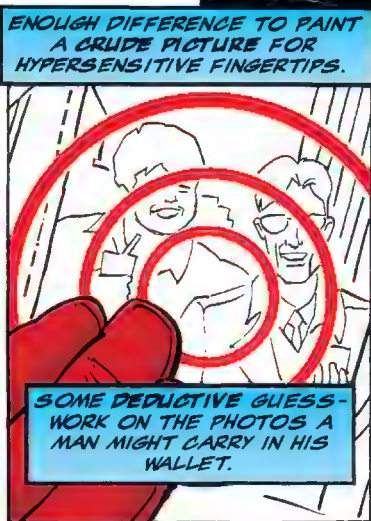
SURE...
OKAY.

BRING IT OVER
HERE IN THE
LIGHT WHERE I
CAN SEE...

MURDOCK CAN'T
AFFORD TO LET
IT WORK AGAIN.



LIGHT AND DARK AREAS
ABSORB DEGREES OF HEAT
FROM THE LAMP ABOVE.




ENOUGH DIFFERENCE TO PAINT
A CRUDE PICTURE FOR
HYPERSENSITIVE FINGERTIPS.

SOME DEDUCTIVE GUESS-
WORK ON THE PHOTOS A
MAN MIGHT CARRY IN HIS
WALLET.



ALL ADDING UP TO ENOUGH
FOR A STAB IN THE DARK.

THAT'S YOU...
AND SHE'S
YOUR WIFE?



WHAT'S THE
POINT OF ALL
THIS, MR. URICH?

GIVE ME THAT!
FORGET IT--JUST
FORGET IT! JUST GO
AWAY!

I SHOULD'VE KNOWN
BETTER. THERE'S NO WAY
YOU COULD BE THE SAME
MAN AS BEFORE.

REALLY?
HOW'D YOU
FIGURE?

MATT WOULD'VE
BEEN THERE TO
STOP THIS FROM
EVER HAPPENING
IN THE FIRST
PLACE...

THE LAW OFFICES OF
NELSON & MURDOCK.

SOMEWHERE BENEATH THE FAST
FOOD DETRITUS OF LATE
NIGHTS AND LONG HOURS.

LET'S GO, FRANKY--
THE STATION'S GOT
WORK FOR YOU, AND
YOU GOT BILLS TO
PAY!

I ONLY NEED
A MINUTE OF
YOUR TIME,
FOGGY--

ROBERT,
uh--

--KAREN, I
REALLY--

WFET NEEDS A SHARP
SHYSTER LIKE YOU,
NELSON--

--TO UNTANGLE US
FROM THOSE WEAK
SISTERS WHO CAN'T
TAKE A LITTLE WELL-
DESERVED POUNDING
ON THE TUBE!

BUT WE GOTTA
HAVE YOU THERE IN
PERSON TO HELP
LEGALLY COVER OUR
TELEJOURNALIST
BACKSIDES!

PLEASE, FOGGY! I'VE
GOT TO HAVE YOUR
PRIVATE INVESTIGA-
TOR FILE!

I'VE COME ACROSS
A CHILD PORN
RACKET--AND I NEED
OUTSIDE HELP
TRACKING IT BACK
TO ITS SOURCE!

CHILD PORNOGRAPHY?
MY GOD, KAREN, THAT'S
HORRIBLE--I HAVE TO, uh, DIG
OUT THE FILE, THOUGH, AND--

AND
THAT'LL
TAKE TIME
WHICH WE
DO NOT
HAVE!

I DON'T BELIEVE WE'VE BEEN
INTRODUCED. ROBERT DENNEHY,
WFET NEWS ANCHOR.

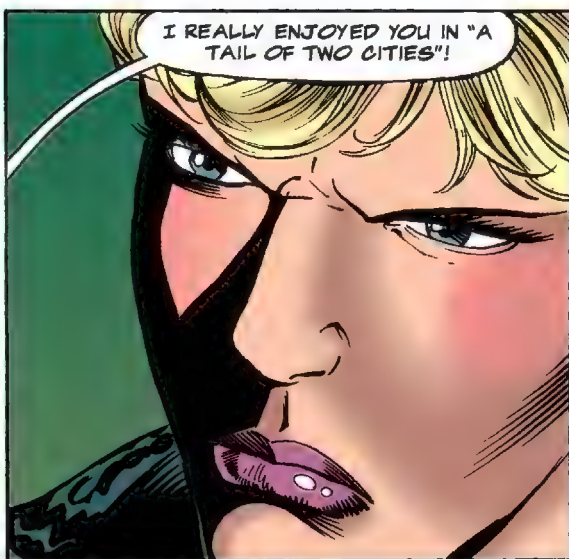
"NEWS" MR. DENNEHY?
EVERY TIME I MAKE THE
MISTAKE OF TUNING IN, IT
LOOKS LIKE A GAME SHOW
OR A LYNCHING.

DEPENDS ON
THE NIGHT.

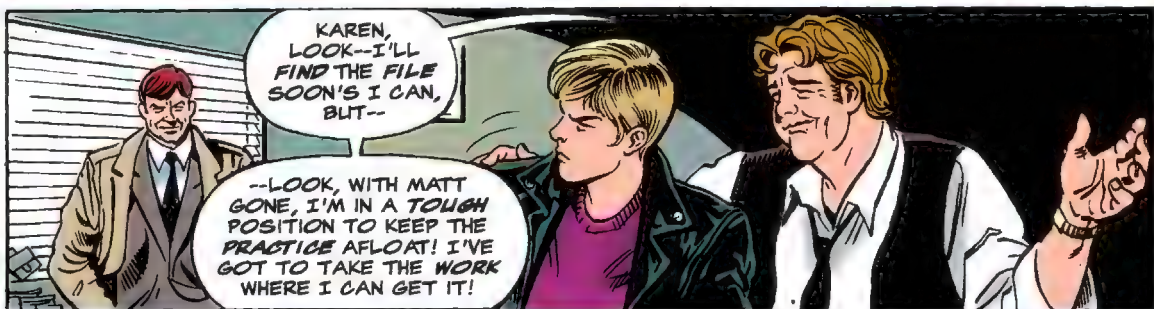
KAREN
PAGE.



AH--THE
ANTI-PORN
ACTIVIST. I'M
SORRY, MISS
PAGE--I
DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU
WITH YOUR
CLOTHES
ON!



I REALLY ENJOYED YOU IN "A
TAIL OF TWO CITIES"!



KAREN,
LOOK--I'LL
FIND THE FILE
SOON'S I CAN,
BUT--

--LOOK, WITH MATT
GONE, I'M IN A TOUGH
POSITION TO KEEP THE
PRACTICE AFLOAT! I'VE
GOT TO TAKE THE WORK
WHERE I CAN GET IT!

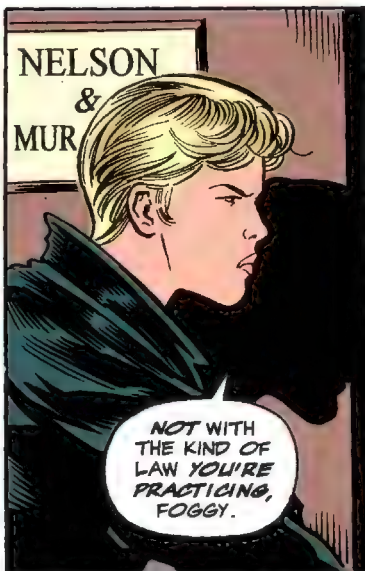


YOU'RE LEAVING HIS
NAME ON THE DOOR?

NELSON
&
MURDOCK



OF COURSE! HIS
SPIRIT'S STILL PART
OF THE FIRM!



NELSON
&
MUR

NOT WITH
THE KIND OF
LAW YOU'RE
PRACTICING,
FOGGY.



INVEIGLE'S AUTO YARD.

THE WILLIAMSBURG
SECTION OF BROOKLYN.

THESE'LL BE STRIPPED
DOWN AND SOLD OFF BY
TOMORROW, MR. FISK.

I'LL CLEAR 'EM OUT
AND MAKE ROOM FOR
THAT TRUCKLOAD OF
VCRs WE'RE GRABBING
TOMORROW.

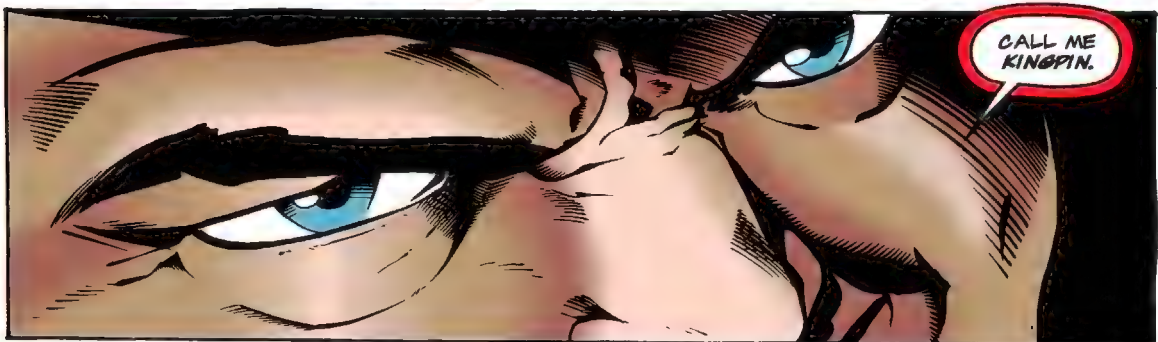
VERY GOOD,
COGGER.


VERY
PROFITABLE.

GETTING A LOT LIKE THE
OLD DAYS FOR YOU,
AIN'T IT, MR. FISK?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY
THAT?

OH, um--BEFORE
YOUR TROUBLE,
THAT IS. I'M
TALKING THE OLD,
OLD DAYS.





FOR CRIME TO BE TRULY SUCCESSFUL, THERE IS A NEED FOR MORE THAN AVARICE.

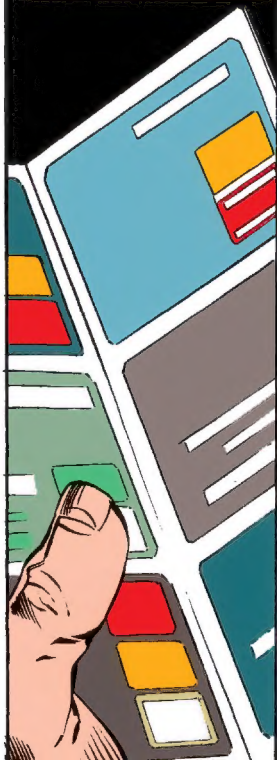
CORRUPTION, LAW-BREAKING, SIN-IT'S ALL A BUSINESS.

AND IT TAKES A BRILLIANT, RUTHLESS MIND TO BOTH SEE THE OPPORTUNITIES AND SEIZE THEM.

FOUR DOZEN PICKPOCKETS SCOUR THE CITY FOR CREDIT AND ATM CARDS.



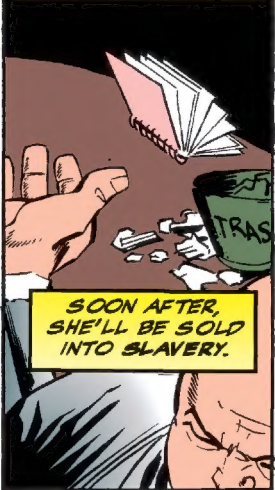
ACCOUNT NUMBERS THAT ARE KEYS TO ENTIRE LIVES IN THE INFORMATION AGE.



A MAN WITH A CARING MANNER BEFRIENDS A FRIGHTENED YOUNG RUNAWAY AT PORT AUTHORITY.

HER ADDRESS BOOK IS "BORROWED" SO MOM AND DAD CAN BE CALLED AND TOLD SHE'S ALL RIGHT.

THE GIRL WILL BE TOLD MOM AND DAD DON'T CARE.



SOON AFTER, SHE'LL BE SOLD INTO SLAVERY.



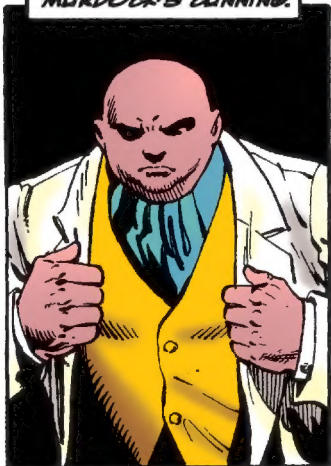
KODAK MOMENTS OF A STATE SENATOR'S ADULTEROUS PASSIONS.

ANOTHER HIGH-POWERED CARD IN THE KINGPIN'S GROWING DECK.

BUT EVERY SUCCESS ONLY
SERVES TO REMIND HOW
VERY FAR HE'S COME
DOWN IN THE WORLD.



DETHRONED BY
MURDOCK'S CUNNING.



THE KINGPIN CONSIDERS
RECAPTURING THE HEADY
HEIGHTS OF FISK TOWER...

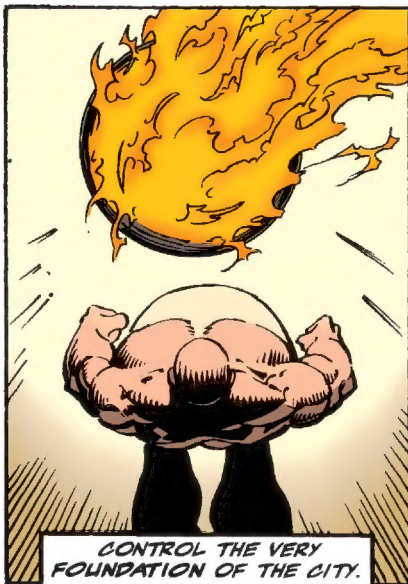


...AND CONSIDERS
HOW FAR IT IS TO
FALL FROM THAT
HIGH LIP.



BETTER TO SAY GOOD-
BYE TO THE PAST.

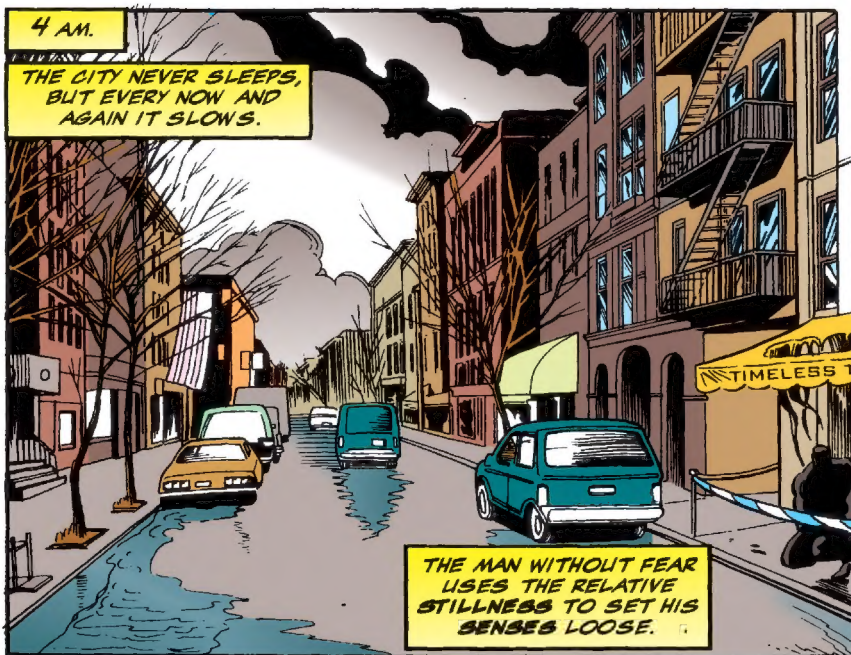
GRANDER TO BUILD HIS
NEW NETWORK FROM
BELOW.



CONTROL THE VERY
FOUNDATION OF THE CITY.



AND NEW YORK'S 8 MILLION
WILL BE DEPENDENT ON HIM
TO NOT PULL IT ALL OUT
FROM UNDER THEM.



4 AM.

THE CITY NEVER SLEEPS,
BUT EVERY NOW AND
AGAIN IT SLOWS.

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR
USES THE RELATIVE
STILLNESS TO SET HIS
SENSES LOOSE.

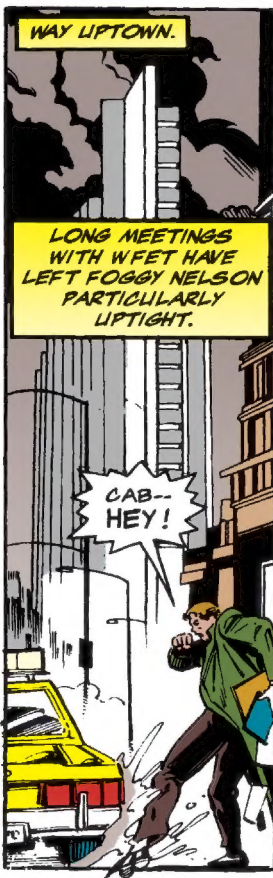


HUNTING FOR A
MATCH TO TRACES
LEFT BEHIND BY THE
URICH'S' ATTACKER.



FOCUSING ON
THE TASK AT
HAND.

TRYING NOT TO
WORRY HOW FAR
THIS "NEW" PER-
SONA DISTANCES
HIM FROM THOSE
HE CARES MOST
ABOUT.



WAY UPTOWN.

LONG MEETINGS
WITH W.F.E.T. HAVE
LEFT FOGGY NELSON
PARTICULARLY
UPTIGHT.

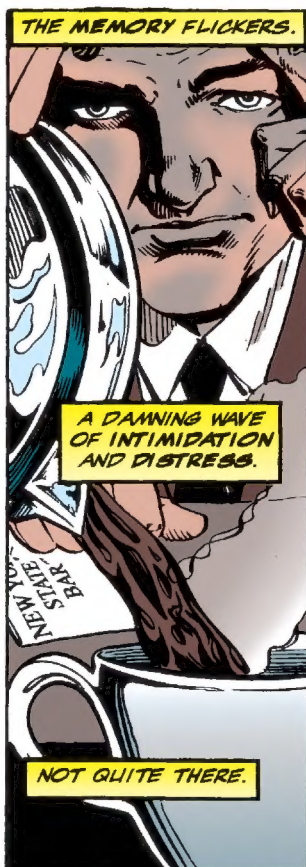
CAB--
HEY!



GREAT...THE
SUBWAY! LIKE I'M
NOT A STATISTIC
WAITING TO
HAPPEN!

THE LAWYER KNOWS
UNCOMFORTABLE,
CERTAINLY. CLEVER
MIND IN A BLUBBERY
BODY.

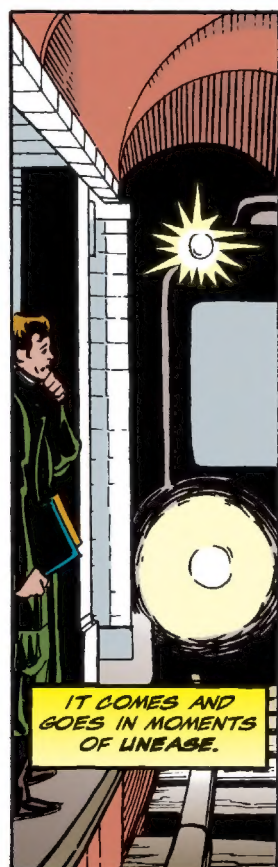
MADE TO FEEL
INADEQUATE.



THE MEMORY FLICKERS.

A DAMNING WAVE
OF INTIMIDATION
AND DISTRESS.

NOT QUITE THERE.



IT COMES AND
GOES IN MOMENTS
OF UNEASE.

LEAVING FOGGY NELSON ONCE MORE SHAKEN ABOUT A NIGHT IN EAST PENNSYLVANIA HE CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER.



KLKLAKLKLAK

YOU WERE THERE--
YEAH, YOU WERE PART OF IT!



AND WE'RE GONNA GO BACK TOGETHER!

REMEMBER...



NEXT: OLD LOVERS, FRESH CORPSES! KRUEL'S TRAIL OF BLOOD CONTINUES, THE KINGPIN'S POWER GROWS, AND DAREDEVIL'S ON THE HUNT! "DUPLICITY!"

